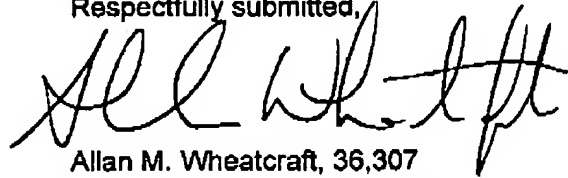


REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's statement that ASTM E 1050-90 has not yet been considered. A copy of that reference is enclosed herewith. Consideration is respectfully requested and acknowledgment of same.

Applicants have amended the claims consistent with the indication of allowable subject matter in the Official Action. All claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. The Examiner in charge of this application is invited to call applicants' undersigned attorney in the event that there are any questions regarding this response or the application generally.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan M. Wheatcraft', written over a horizontal line.

Allan M. Wheatcraft, 36,307
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.
551 Paper Mill Road
P.O. Box 9206
Newark, DE 19714-9206
(302) 738-4880

Date: March 28, 2005